T-P 7-8-67 Commanding.

CIA Should Know

New Orleans.

Editor, The Times-Picayune:

In the July 2 issue it was stated that Tom Bethell stated that from a check into the National Archives in Washington, from a list of hidden information, it appeared that the CIA knew "a great deal about Lee Harvey Oswald before the assassination." The implication Mr. Bethell makes is that the CIA should not have had any information about Lee Harvey Oswald.

Lee Harvey Oswald was a known Communist; was exposed as a Communist by the Information Council of the Americas here in New Orleans about three months before the assassination; and the CIA, which is the intelligence arm of our government, would certainly be derelict if they did not have information on known Communists.

It is regrettable that there is an increasing movement to try to discredit the CIA and the FBI. This is exactly what the Communists would like to see done. It is unfortunate that New Orleans is a party to the act.

It is about time that red-blooded Americans speak up in defense of this great nation of ours and not be intimidated by those who seek to undermine our government.

ALTON OCHSNER,
President, Information Council of the Americas.